

International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda Tribunal pénal international pour le Rwanda

167R-98-44-T 12 - 04-2007 (34718-34715)

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TRIAL CHAMBER I

Before: Judge Erik Møse, presiding Judge Jai Ram Reddy Judge Sergei Alekseevich Egorov

Registrar: Adama Dieng

Date: 12 April 2007

THE PROSECUTOR

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Théoneste BAGOSORA Gratien KABJLIGI Aloys NTABAKUZE Anatole NSENGIYUMVA

Case No. ICTR-98-41-T



DECISION ON NTABAKUZE MOTIONS TO ADMIT DOCUMENTS UNDER RULE 92 bis

The Prosecution Barbara Mulvaney Drew White Christine Graham Rashid Rashid Gregory Townsend Kartik Murukutia The Defence Raphaël Constant Allison Turner Paul Skolnik Frédéric Hivon Peter Erlinder Marc Nerenberg Kennedy Ogetto Gershom Otachi Bw'Omanwa

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THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR RWANDA

SITTING as Trial Chamber I, composed of Judge Erik Mose, presiding, Judge Jai Ram Reddy, and Judge Sergei Alekseevich Egorov;

BEING SEIZED OF the Ntabakuze Defence "Motion to Admit Documents Under Rule 92, bis", filed on 13 December 2006, and its Corrigendum, filed on 14 March 2007;

CONSIDERING the Prosecution's oral submissions on 18 and 19 January 2007, and the Ntabakuze Reply, filed on 22 January 2007;

CONSIDERING the Bagosora Defence "Submissions on Document Sought to Be Admitted by Ntabakuze Defence Pursuant to Rule 92 *bis*", filed on 18 January 2007;

BEING FURTHER SEIZED OF the Ntabakuze "Motion to Admit a Sworn Statement Under Rule 92 *bis*", filed on 22 January 2007, and its Corrigendum, filed on 23 February 2007;

CONSIDERING the Prosecution Response thereto, filed on 29 January 2007;

HEREBY DECIDES the motions.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Chamber previously denied the Ntabakuze Defence request for a subpoena to be issued to Michael Hourigan, a former Prosecution investigator whose testimony related to his investigations into the shooting down of the airplane carrying President Habyarimana on 6 April 1994. The basis of the decision was that the Indictment does not attribute responsibility for this attack to any of the Accused or their alleged co-conspirators.¹

2. Pursuant to Rule 92 *bis*, the Ntabakuze Defence now seeks to tender into evidence a sworn affidavit of Mr. Hourigan with three annexes ("the Affidavit").² On 18 January 2007, the Accused Nsengiyumva testified briefly about the Affidavit.³ At that time, the Prosecution opposed its admission.⁴

3. The Defence also seeks to admit the sworn statement of Amadou Deme, a former member of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) in 1993-94. As a former Prosecution investigator, who worked closely with Mr. Hourigan, Mr. Deme was originally scheduled to testify before the Chamber as a witness for Ntabakuze. Efforts were made to secure his testimony by video link, but the Defence withdrew him as a witness in early September.⁵

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¹ Bagasora et al., Decision on Request for Subpoenas of United Nations Officials (TC), 6 October 2006, para. 12.

² The swom affidavit, dated 17 January 2007, was later replaced by an affidavit of 8 March 2007, see Defence Corrigendum of 14 March 2007. The French version of Annex 1 has already been admitted as Defence Exhibit DB 247; T. 2 November 2005 p. 62.

³ T. 18 January 2007 p. 18.

¹bid., pp. 76-78.

⁵ Bagosora et al., Decision on Testimony of Amadou Deme by Video-Link (TC), 29 August 2006; T. 7 September 2006 pp. 83-84; T. 8 September 2006 p. 36.

DELIBERATIONS

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4. Pursuant to Rule 92 bis, a written statement may be admitted in lieu of oral testimony provided that it "goes to proof of a matter other than the acts and conduct of the accused as charged in the indictment". In addition, the statement must meet the formal requirements of 92 bis (B). As documentary evidence, any written statement tendered for admission must be relevant and have probative value under Rule 89 (C).⁶

(i) Affadavit of Michael Hourigan

5. The Ntabakuze Defence argues that the Affadavit is admissible under Rule 92 bis because it does not go to the acts and conduct of the Accused as charged in the Indictment, is of a cumulative nature, provides historical and political background, and meets the formal requirements of Rule 92 bis (B). The document is relevant and has probative value.⁷ The Bagosora Defence supports the Ntabakuze request for admission of the Affidavit. The lack of investigations in order to clarify the identity of the perpetrators of the assassination of President Habyarimana violates the fundamental right of the Accused to a fair trial.⁸

6. The Prosecution objects to the admission of the Affidavit as not being relevant or having probative value. It points out that the Ntabakuze Defence has acknowledged that "the evidence does not go to the heart of the subject matter in *this* trial".⁹ The written statement comes from a disgruntled former Tribunal employee, who has breached his duty of confidentiality to the United Nations by providing the annexed documents. The formal requirements of Rule 92 *bis* also present a problem.¹⁰

7. The Chamber finds that the formal requirements of Rule 92 *bis* (B) are met by the Corrigendum submitted by the Defence on 14 March 2007, which provided the signature and verification of a "Presiding Officer" in accordance with that provision.

8. The other conditions in Rule 92 *bis* have also been met. The subject matter of the Affidavit is the responsibility for the assassination of President Habyarimana. This has no bearing on the allegations against the Accused and thus does not go to his acts and conduct. The evidence is also of a cumulative nature, as the Chamber has already heard a number of witnesses testify about similar issues.

9. As regards Rule 89 (C), the Chamber has already held that any evidence on the attack of the Presidential plane is "a matter of contextual significance ... and of collateral and indirect relevance".¹¹ The Affadavit and its annexes contain background information which

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⁶ Bagosora et al., Decision on Ntabakuze Motion to Deposit Certain United Nations Documents (TC), 19 March 2007, para 9; Serugendo, Decision on Defence Motion for the Admission of Written Witness Statements under Rule 92 bis (TC), 1 June 2006, para 3.

⁷ Motion, paras. 2-3.

^a The Defence contests the actual reference to Colonel Bagosora on page 3 of the second document annexed to the Affadavit, entitled "Secret Internal Memorandum", on the grounds that there is no legal or factual basis for including him in the list of FAR command hierarchy gathered by Hourigan; Bagosora Submissions, paras. 4-10. ⁹ Quote from Motion, para. 3.

^{to} T. 18 January 2007 pp. 76-78.

¹¹ Bagosora et al., Decision on Request for Subpoenas of United Nations Officials (TC), 6 October 2006, para. 7.

should be admitted into evidence, having sufficient probative value. The weight of the evidence will be considered at a later stage. Consequently, the Defence request is granted.¹²

(ii) Statement by Amadou Deme

10. The Defence submissions in favour of admission are similar to its arguments relating to the Hourigan Affidavit.¹³ The Prosecution argues that the facts contained in the statement are in dispute and that it should be given the opportunity to cross-examine the witness. Amadou Deme was available to testify orally but the Defence decided not to call him.¹⁴

11. The Chamber notes that Mr. Deme's statement covers his co-operation with Mr. Hourigan as well as meetings with an informant, Jean-Pierre, concerning alleged plans of violence. The Defence had the opportunity to call Mr. Deme as a witness in 2006 but declined to do so. Instead it submitted his statement through its motion of 22 January 2007, after the closure of the evidentiary phase of the trial. Admission of documents at this late stage of the trial can only be allowed in exceptional circumstances.¹⁵ The Chamber cannot see any such circumstances and denies the request.

FOR THE ABOVE REASONS, THE CHAMBER

GRANTS the motion in part and admits the Affadavit of Michael Hourigan with three annexes;

ORDERS the Registry to assign this set of documents one exhibit number; and

DENIES the motion in all other respects.

Arusha, 12 April 2007

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Erik Møse Presiding Judge

ufi Reddy

Judge

Sergei Alekseevich Egorov Judge

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[Seal of the Tribunal]



¹² When assigning an exhibit number, the Registry should use the corrected version of the documents, see the Defence Corrigendum of 14 March 2007.

¹⁰ Motion, paras, 2-5.

[&]quot;Response, para. 3.

¹⁵ Bagasora et al., Decision on Bagosora motion to tender statement of Witness B-06 (TC), 3 April 2007, para.

^{4;} Decision on Bagosora motion for disclosure of agenda (TC), 11 April 2007, para. 5.



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No. of Pages:	4	Original Language:	- +	French Kinyarwanda
Title of Document:	DECISION ON INTABAKUZE MOTIONS TO ADMIT DOCUMENTS UNDER RULE 92 bis			
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